THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN): (a) and (b). The information is being collected.

[Translation]

Counter Guarantee for Road Projects

3870. SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHARY:
SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any proposal from private sector relating to road projects;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether private sector has requested for a counter guarantee from the Government; and

(d) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. For two projects agreements have been signed and for nine highway/bridge project proposals have been received.

(c) and (d). Present policy does not envisage any counter guarantees.

[English]

Financial Assistance by World Bank

3871. SHRI SANAT MEHTA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether World Bank has announced recently to provide funds for improving health systems in Karnataka, Punjab and West Bengal;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reasons for selecting these three states only for this purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI): (a) and (b). Yes Sir. World Bank assistance to the tune of Rs. 1669/- crores has been approved for Health Systems Development in these three States.

The Project inter-alia, seeks to upgrade the Secondary level hospitals systems, improve service delivery and reduce gaps in the rural health infrastructure of the three project States.

(c) Since the World Bank assistance is limited, the state selection was done keeping in mind a variety of factors which included location of the State, socio-economic indices, early development of the project as per formulation guidelines, besides capacity to provide financial support, to maintain substantiability of the project.

Territorial Review Committee

3872. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR:
DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI:
SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE:
SHRI PARASRAM BHARDWAJ:
SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the salient features of the recommendations made by the Third Territorial Army Review Committee;

(b) the reaction of the Government thereto, particularly about all Government Servants and Public Sector Undertakings personnel enjoined to undergo an obligatory fixed term service of five years at a stretch in the Territorial Army during their tenure of office;

(c) whether the Government have a proposal to strengthen and expand the Territorial Army; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU): (a) to (d). The Report of the Territorial Army Review Committee has been submitted to the Government very recently, on 6th August, 1996. The Report contains various recommendations including compulsory liability of Government servants to serve in Territorial Army for a minimum period of five years. The decisions on the recommendation in the report require consultation with the Armed Forces as also with other Government departments.

Detention of Cargo Vessels

3873. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Andaman Mainland bound passenger-cum-cargo vessels were detained by the Forward Seamen Union at Calcutta and other Ports during June, 1996;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the action taken or proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?